GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3758
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2006
BROADCAST BY FM RADIO STATIONS
Aaron Rashid Shri J.M.

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow FM Radio Stations to air sports, news and current affairs content as part of their broadcast;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Association of Radio Operators of India have issued press statements appeared in some newspapers on October 25, 2006 that the Government has agreed to their demands; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI)

(a) & (b) As per the policy, the private FM broadcasters are free to air broadcasts of audio on main carrier and data on sub carrier both excluding news and current affairs. Government do not propose to allow FM Radio stations to broadcast news and current affairs.

(c) & (d) This Ministry is not aware of any press statements issued by the Association of Radio Operators of India in this regard. However, current Government policy does not allow broadcast of news and current affairs by private FM channels.